

Minutes, Standing Committee on Rules, June 6, 2005

The meeting was called to order by the chair at 7:35 PM. Members present were: Michael Berardi, Bernice Strom, Don Chute, Joel Winett, Judy Perry, Teri Banerjee and Gloria Geller. Diana Bailey, an incoming member was also present.

There was a motion by Judy Perry and second by Michael Berardi to accept Minutes of May 2, 2005. The vote was 5 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 abstention. One member arrived after this vote was taken.

Old Business:

A. Review of Annual Town Meeting to date.

- Information Table – some concern about TMM bringing back all their information picked up in April and there not being enough copies for everyone.
- Amendments on-the-fly- seems to be working, continue to monitor.
- Procedures for submitting motions and amendments to the Moderator. It was suggested that a blank form with pertinent information be available on Information Table. This was tabled until the new committee meets to finalization of the form.
- Procedures for calling meetings of standing committees (or other committees). For example who can call a meeting? who can cancel a meeting? what is the quorum requirement? There was a motion by Gloria Geller and second by Joel Winett to have the chair send a letter to all standing committee chairs to remind them that we are governed by the Open Meeting law and therefore all meetings must be posted 48 hours prior to the meeting, meetings must be held in public accessible building and Minutes are to be taken and submitted within 45 days of the meeting whether approved or not. If meeting is cancelled or a quorum not being present, the chair or clerk of the committee should notify the Town Clerk. The vote was 7 in favor, 0 opposed and no abstentions.
- Natick Town Meeting- next committee to consider comments and observations of Joel Winett and consider whether any changes to our format are applicable.

New Business

A. Moderator Issues

- Rules Committee was concerned about the vacancies on the Finance Committee and Capital Budget Committee.
- Have a TMM serve on Finance Committee-to be discussed by next committee.
- Election of Moderator- should it be by TM or general election- for next committee.
- Having a public hearing on Town Meeting issues- for next committee.

There was a motion to adjourn at 9:10 PM by Gloria Geller and second by Michael Berardi. The vote was 7 in favor 0 opposed and no abstentions.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Chute, Clerk